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## **Inventory of the Elizabeth Elkus Papers, 1925-1994**

Collection processed by Michelle Buchmeier; finding aid written by Michelle Buchmeier

Music Library

Hargrove Music Library

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California, 94720-6000

Phone: (510) 642-2623

Email: [music\\_reference@berkeley.edu](mailto:music_reference@berkeley.edu)

URL: [https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/music\\_library\\_archives](https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/music_library_archives)

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## Inventory of the Elizabeth Elkus Papers, 1925-1994

### Collection number: ARCHIVES ELKUS 2

The Music Library

University of California, Berkeley  
Berkeley, California

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Collection Processed By:

Michelle Buchmeier

Finding Aid Created By

Michelle Buchmeier

Date Completed

July 1997; revised Jan. 1999

Revised By

Judy Tsou

Encoded By

James Lake and Xiuzhi Zhou; re-encoded programmatically by EAD Stylus

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Elizabeth Elkus Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1925-1994

**Collection number:** ARCHIVES ELKUS 2

**Creator:** Elkus, Elizabeth Britton

**Extent:** Number of containers: 2 cartons (63 folders and 3 pamphlet boxes)

**Repository:** The Music Library

Berkeley, California 94720-6000

**Shelf location:** For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

**Language:** English.

#### Provenance

From the estate of Elizabeth Elkus. Given to the Music Library over a period of time (1994-present).

#### Access

Collection is open for research.

#### Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of the Music Library.

#### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Elizabeth Elkus Papers, ARCHIVES ELKUS 2, The Music Library, University of California, Berkeley.

#### Biography

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Elizabeth Elkus (b. August 26, 1902; d. July 5, 1994) was born Florence Elizabeth Britton in London, England. After her first fiancé died, she moved to the United States where she met and soon married Albert Elkus in 1929. She helped her husband shape the musical life of the Bay Area by hosting many musicians and by creating a hospitable atmosphere for young musicians, even after Albert's death in 1962. Elizabeth is most remembered for befriending, housing, and aiding students when they first arrived in Berkeley, many of whom went on to achieve success in their respective fields. She and Albert have two sons--Jonathan and Benedict.

**Scope and Content**

Includes personal correspondence from and to Elizabeth Elkus, various articles on and by friends of the Elkus, photographs, date books, passports, and address books. There is much information on the UC Berkeley Music Department contained in the correspondence and other documents, and there are two historical recordings as well.

**Title:** Albert Israel Elkus Papers,

**Identifier/Call Number:** ARCHIVES MUSIC 1

**Title:** Albert Elkus Papers,

**Identifier/Call Number:** BANC MSS 73/18 c

**Title:** Jonathan Elkus Papers,

**Identifier/Call Number:** ARCHIVES ELKUS 3

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**SERIES 1: BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIALS**

**Scope and Content Note**

Interviews, articles.

**SERIES 2: PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**Scope and Content Note**

Mostly musicians, including well-known composers such as Arthur Bliss, Ernest Bloch and Nicola LeFanu.

**SERIES 3: MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

**SERIES 4: OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**SERIES 5: MATERIALS RELATING TO ALBERT ELKUS**

**SERIES 6: MATERIALS RELATING TO FRIENDS**

**Scope and Content Note**

Newspaper clippings, etc.

**SERIES 7: SOUND RECORDINGS**

**SERIES 8: MISCELLANY**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes date books, travel documents, etc.

**SERIES 1: BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIALS**

Box Box 1 ,  
Folder 1  
Folder 2  
Folder 3  
Folder 4  
Folder 5  
Folder 6

**Interviews**

**Memorials**

**Oral History**

**Photographs of Elizabeth Elkus**

**Condolence letters and cards received by Ethel Mattison on Elizabeth Elkus' death**

**A Britton family history prepared by Elizabeth Elkus and her sisters Helena and Ethel (photocopy of original typescript and manuscript)**

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**SERIES 2: PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Box Box 1 ,	<b>Abraham, Gerald and Pat</b>
Folder 7	
Folder 8	<b>Blacking, John</b>
Folder 9	<b>Bliss, Sir Arthur and Trudy (1942-53) -- photocopies; the originals have been transferred to Cambridge University, Bliss Archives.</b>
Folder 10	<b>Bliss, Sir Arthur and Trudy (1946-81)</b>
Folder 11	<b>Bliss, Sir Arthur and Trudy (1981-97)</b>
Folder 12	<b>Bloch, Ernest</b>
Folder 13	<b>Bradshaw; Richard, Diana, Jenny, And James</b>
Folder 14	<b>Brett, Philip</b>
Folder 15	<b>Britton, George and Helena (Elizabeth's parents), I -- photocopies and transcriptions (typewritten); bound in two volumes. Includes a brief family history.</b>
Folder 16	<b>Britton, George and Helena (Elizabeth's parents), II -- see above.</b>
Folder 17	<b>"Correspondence Record" (log of correspondents)</b>
Folder 18	<b>Cowell, Sidney Robertson</b>
Folder 19	<b>Curtis, Alan, Julia, and Daria</b>
Folder 20	<b>Denny, William</b>
Folder 21	<b>Dewar, Muriel</b>
Folder 22	<b>Dixon, Daniel</b>
Folder 23	<b>Duckles, Madeline</b>
Folder 24	<b>Fox, Malcolm</b>
Folder 25	<b>Harris, Fred and Mary</b>
Folder 26	<b>Holoman, Kern</b>
Folder 27	<b>LeFanu, Nicola</b>
Folder 28	<b>Levine, Cornelia and Lawrence</b>
Folder 29	<b>Mack, Dana</b>
Folder 30	<b>Meikeljohn, Helen</b>
Folder 31	<b>Milhaud, Madeleine</b>
Folder 32	<b>Moroney, Davitt</b>
Folder 33	<b>Music Department</b>
Folder 34	<b>Olshauser, Detlev</b>
Folder 35	<b>Thompson, Meredith</b>
Folder 36	<b>Unidentified Correspondent</b>

**SERIES 3: MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Box Box 1 ,	<b>Articles by and about EE's Friends in the Music Department</b>
Folder 37	
Folder 38	<b>Articles on Music Department</b>
Folder 39	<b>Concert Programs</b>
Folder 40	<b>Miscellaneous</b>
Folder 41	<b>Thirty Years of Hertz Hall</b>

**SERIES 4: OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**Scope and Content Note**

These are organizations to which she had donated money or participated. These folders include pamphlets, letters, and other documents.

Box Box 1 ,	<b>Ann Martin's Children's Center</b>
Folder 42	
Folder 43	<b>Consumer's Cooperative of Berkeley</b>
Folder 44	<b>Friends of Madi Bacon</b>
Folder 45	<b>Gertrude Jones Memorial (Children's Hospital)</b>
Folder 46	<b>Kahn Foundation, I</b>
Folder 47	<b>Kahn Foundation, II</b>
Box Box 2 ,	<b>Kahn Foundation/Magnes Museum</b>
Folder 1	
Folder 2	<b>Mills College</b>

**SERIES 5: MATERIAL RELATING TO ALBERT ELKUS**

Box Box 2 ,  
Folder 3  
Folder 4

**A.I.E. Biography**

**Albert Elkus Room Naming**

**SERIES 6: MATERIALS RELATING TO FRIENDS**

**Scope and Content Note**

Newspaper Clippings, articles, etc

Box Box 2 ,  
Folder 5  
Folder 6  
Folder 7  
Folder 8  
Folder 9  
Folder 10  
Folder 11  
Folder 12

**Bacon, Ernst and Madi**

**Elman, Mischa**

**Jenkins, David**

**Rosen, Jerome**

**Salz, Helen**

**Schneider, David**

**Sears, Christine**

**Weymouth, John M.**

**SERIES 7: SOUND RECORDINGS**

Box Box 2 ,  
Folder 13  
Folder 14

**Celebrating Albert Bender (cassette and article)**

**90th Birthday Salute to Rebecca Clarke Friskin -- reel-to-reel tape**

**SERIES 8: MISCELLANY**

Box Box 2 ,  
Folder 15  
Folder 16  
Folder 17  
Folder 18  
pam Pam Box 1

**"Friends Who Called"**

**Miscellaneous**

**"The Peat Bog Soldiers"--sheet music**

**"Travel Documents"**

**Passports: 1925-1983**

**3 address books**

**1 Ration Book (1946)**

pam Pam Box 2  
pam Pam Box 3

**Appointment Books: 1929, 1980-1988**

**Appointment Books: 1989-1994**